

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUEBEC 00233 291901Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L QUEBEC 0233

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PORG, NATO, CA
SUBJ: PQ TILTS TOWARD REALPOLITIK

REF: QUEBEC 190, MONTREAL 867

1. AS REPORTED IN MONTREAL 867 AND PREVIOUSLY PREDICTED IN
QUEBEC 190, PARTI QUEBECOIS BIENNIAL CONVENTION HELD JMAY 28-29
AMENDED RESOLUTION IN EARLIER PQ PROGRAM CALLING FOR WITHDRAWAL
FROM "MILITARY ALLIANCES SUCH AS NORAD AND NATO". INFORMAL
TRANSLATION OF TEXT OF NEW FORMULATION, WHICH WAS GIVEN TO ME BY
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO MINISTER OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS,
FOLLOWS: (A PQ GOVERNMENT WILL UNDERTAKE TO)

--"PRACTICE A PACIFIST FOREIGN POLICY BASED ON A
REJECTION OF RECOURSE TO WAR AS A SOLUTION TO
INTERNATIONAL DIFFERENCES, DISARMAMENT, PROHIBITION OF EXPERI-
MENTATION AND UTILIZATION OF NUCLEAR AND BIOLOGICAL ARMS,
AND THE EVALUATION OF DEFENSE ALLIANCES IN THE LIGHT OF THE
FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES..."

--"ESTABLISH LINES OF COOPERATION AND GOOD RELATIONS WITH
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PAGE 02 QUEBEC 00233 291901Z

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE
FOLLOWING PRIORITIES:
A) THE CLOSE LINES WHICH TIE US TO CANADA AND TO THE
UNITED STATES;
B) THE REINFORCEMENT OF OUR RELATIONS WITH FRANCO-
PHONE COUNTRIES OR WITH THOSE USING FRENCH IN THEIR
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS;

C) THE MAINTENANCE OR ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH EUROPE AND NOTABLY WITH THE EEC, THE COMMONWEALTH, AND LATIN AMERICA;
D) THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, GIVING PRIORITY TO THE NEEDS OF THE MOST DEPRIVED NATIONS;
E) THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEVUS RELATIONS WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRIES."

2. COMMENT: PROPONENTS OF A PRAGMATIC APPROACH TO FOREIGN RELATIONS OF A SOVEREIGN QUEBEC, SUCH AS CLAUDE MORIN, RAN INTO STRONG OPPOSITION AT THE CONFERENCE FROM IDEALISTIC ANTI-WAR FACTION AMONG PARTY MILITANTS. THUS, WORDING OF REVISED TEXT ON CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN ALLIANCES IS VAGUE AND RETAINS PACIFIST PRINCIPLE. HOWEVER, MORIN ASSURED ME PRIVATELY BEFORE CONGRESS THAT GOQ WAS COMMITTED TO A MORE "REALISTIC" VIEW OF FOREIGN POLICY - INCLUDING EVENTUAL PARTICIPATION IN NORAD AND NATO - AND WOULD EVENTUALLY PURSUE THIS COURSE REGARDLESS OF POSITIONS TAKEN BY THE PARTY CONGRESS.
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